



DELMARVA AGRICULTURE DATA WEEKLY BROILER CHICKS REPORT

12/28/05
BC-52-05

PLACEMENTS UP 7%

For the week ending December 24, 2005, growers placed 12.0 million broiler chicks in Delmarva growing houses, according to the Maryland Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. These placements were 6.8% above the comparable week a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched (11.8 million) increased 5.2% from comparable week in 2004. Eggs set in incubators during the week totaled 14.3 million, an increase of 2.2% from the same week a year earlier. Federally inspected slaughter on Delmarva was 11.2 million for the week ending December 17, 2005 compared to 10.7 million slaughtered during the same week in 2004.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED ON DELMARVA

WEEK ENDING	EGGS SET 1/		CHICKS HATCHED 1/		CHICKS PLACED 2/	
	PREV YEAR	CURR YEAR	PREV YEAR	CURR YEAR	PREV YEAR	CURR YEAR
----- THOUSANDS -----						
10/29/05	13,314	13,026	10,807	11,232	10,809	11,234
11/05/05	13,554	13,907	10,760	11,584	10,760	11,584
11/12/05	13,074	13,596	10,553	11,478	10,555	11,480
11/19/05	13,337	13,852	11,156	10,939	11,156	10,939
11/26/05	13,803	14,216	11,306	11,656	11,308	11,706
12/03/05	13,594	14,172	10,808	11,372	10,808	11,372
12/10/05	13,810	14,206	11,193	11,558	11,195	11,558
12/17/05	13,804	14,336	11,455	11,835	11,455	11,835
12/24/05	14,010	14,320	11,235	11,821	11,237	12,006

1/ For all broiler-type chicks, including those intended for hatchery flocks.

2/ The difference between chicks hatched and placed includes chicks withdrawn for hatchery flocks, inshipments and outshipments. None of those numbers are published to avoid disclosure of proprietary information.

* Revised.

NEGOTIATED PRICE FOR TRUCKLOT OF READY-TO-COOK, ICE-PACK, GRADE A FRYERS (\$ per CWT) 1/

	WEEK ENDING 12/31/05	PREV. WEEK	PREV. MONTH	PREV. YEAR
New York Weighted Avg	56.87	56.46	69.60	64.18
12-City Composite 2/	62.33	63.76	66.89	68.26

1/ Source: U.S.D.A., Poultry Market News.

2/ 12-cities: Boston/New England, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco.